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## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

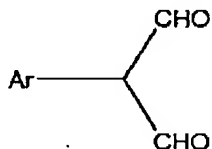
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A germicidal composition comprising:

a diluent; [[and]]

[[a germicidally effective amount of a germicidal compound having the formula]]

an amount of a compound of the following formula effective to kill mycobacterium:



wherein Ar is an aryl group selected from the group consisting of phenyl, 4-pyrimidinyl, and 2-(2-nitro-3-formyl-phenyl); and

a corrosion inhibitor.

2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1, further comprising:

a buffer;

a chelating agent; and

[[a corrosion inhibitor; and]]

a surfactant.

4. (Original) The composition of claim 3, further comprising:  
  
a fragrance; and  
  
a coloring agent.
5. (Withdrawn) A method comprising killing bacteria by contacting the bacteria with the composition of claim 1.
6. (Withdrawn) A method comprising disinfecting a surface by contacting the surface with the composition of claim 1 for a period of time and at a temperature effective to disinfect the surface.
7. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein Ar is phenyl.
8. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 7, wherein the [[germicidally effective]] amount of the compound is effective to kill at least  $1 \times 10^6$  *Mycobacterium terrae* bacteria in contact with the composition in less than one hour with a bacteria suspension test at a temperature of 20°C.
9. (Withdrawn) A method comprising disinfecting a surface by contacting the surface with the composition of claim 8 for a period of time and at a temperature effective to disinfect the surface.
10. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 7, further comprising an enhancer to enhance a germicidal efficacy of the [[germicidal]] compound, the enhancer selected from the group consisting of isophthalaldehyde and a combination of isophthalaldehyde and terephthalaldehyde.

11. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 1, wherein Ar is 4-pyrimidinyl.
12. (Withdrawn) A method comprising disinfecting a surface by contacting the surface with the composition of claim 11 for a period of time and at a temperature effective to disinfect the surface.
13. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) The composition of claim 11, wherein the [[germicidally effective]] amount of the compound is effective to kill at least  $1 \times 10^4$  *Mycobacterium terrae* bacteria in contact with the composition in less than five minutes with a bacteria suspension test at a temperature of 20°C.
14. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 1, wherein Ar is 2-(2-nitro-3-formyl-phenyl).
15. (Withdrawn) A method comprising disinfecting a surface by contacting the surface with the composition of claim 14 for a period of time and at a temperature effective to disinfect the surface.
16. (Withdrawn and Currently Amended) The composition of claim 14, wherein the [[germicidally effective]] amount of the compound is effective to kill at least  $1 \times 10^4$  *Mycobacterium terrae* bacteria in contact with the composition in less than five minutes with a bacteria suspension test at a temperature of 20°C.
- 17-18 (Cancelled)
19. (Currently Amended) A germicidal composition comprising:  
  
a diluent;  
  
phenyl-propanedial; and

isophthalaldehyde, wherein the germicidal composition is effective to kill mycobacterium.

20. (Original) The composition of claim 19, wherein the isophthalaldehyde is an enhancer for the germicidal efficacy of the phenyl-propanedial.
21. (Withdrawn) A method comprising killing bacteria by contacting the bacteria with the composition of claim 19.
22. (Original) The composition of claim 19, further comprising terephthalaldehyde.
23. (Original) The composition of claim 22, wherein the isophthalaldehyde and the terephthalaldehyde are an enhancer for the germicidal efficacy of the phenyl-propanedial.
24. (Withdrawn) A method comprising disinfecting a surface by contacting the surface with the composition of claim 23.
25. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the [[germicidally effective]] amount of the compound is effective to kill at least  $1 \times 10^6$  *Mycobacterium terrae* bacteria in contact with the composition in less than one hour with a bacteria suspension test at a temperature of 20°C.
26. (Cancelled)
27. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1, further comprising tuberculosis in contact with the diluent.
28. (New) The composition of claim 1, further comprising bacteria in contact with the diluent.

29. (New) The composition of claim 28, wherein the bacteria comprise mycobacterium.
30. (New) The composition of claim 29, wherein the bacteria comprise *Mycobacterium terrae*.
31. (New) The composition of claim 1, wherein the compound is an intermediate disinfectant.
32. (New and Withdrawn) A method comprising killing mycobacterium by contacting the bacteria with the composition of claim 1.
33. (New) The composition of claim 1, in contact with a medical instrument.
34. (New) The composition of claim 7, wherein the germicidal compound has a concentration ranging from 0.1 to about 1%.
35. (New and Withdrawn) The composition of claim 11, wherein the germicidal compound has a concentration ranging from 0.1 to about 2.3%.
36. (New and Withdrawn) The composition of claim 14, wherein the germicidal compound has a concentration ranging from 0.1 to about 2.1%.
37. (New) The composition of claim 19, wherein the amount is effective to kill at least  $1 \times 10^6$  *Mycobacterium terrae* bacteria in contact with the composition in less than one hour with a bacteria suspension test at a temperature of 20°C.